



FMCS

FEDERAL MEDIATION &
CONCILIATION SERVICE

SPEAKER'S BIO



BARBARA BAKER

COMMISSIONER,
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

Barbara Baker is a Commissioner with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) in Independence, Ohio. As a Federal Mediator, she assists parties in collective bargaining negotiations and mediates labor and employment disputes in the private, public and federal sectors. In addition, Ms. Baker trains labor advocates and management in collective bargaining including bargaining processes, contract administration, steward/supervisor training and developing effective labor management committees. She also provides training in communication skills such as conflict resolution, active listening and communication dynamics. In addition, Ms. Baker facilitates person to person dialogues as well as group discussions to promote strong workplace relationships.

Ms. Baker began her career as an attorney with Baker Hostetler, Columbus, Ohio in its Labor and Employment Law group. Her practice focused on preemptive training to minimize labor management disputes and litigation. She subsequently worked for the Ohio Department of Insurance and was the liaison with the Ohio Attorney General's Office for EEOC matters. After relocating to Cleveland, Ohio, Ms. Baker was employed by Thomson Reuters. Prior to joining FMCS, Ms. Baker was Assistant General Counsel and Director at Hyatt Legal Plans, Cleveland, Ohio. In this position she advised the company on labor and employment law, participated in collective bargaining negotiations and developed and presented a wide variety of training programs.

Ms. Baker graduated *summa cum laude* from Capital University in 1981 with a B.A. in History and Political Science and a minor in French. She studied International Relations at Georgetown University and received her Juris Doctor from Northwestern University School of Law. At Northwestern, she was a member of the Jessup International Moot Court and Negotiations Team.